



FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES
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Timeline in the *Plata* (medical care), *Coleman* (mental health care) and Three-Judge Panel (prison crowding) cases

1991

The *Coleman* class-action lawsuit was filed in U.S. District Court, Eastern District, alleging that mental health care in state prisons violated the Eighth Amendment's ban of cruel and unusual punishment.

1995

The *Coleman* court found that the State was deliberately indifferent to the mental health needs of inmates in violation of the Eighth Amendment. A special master was appointed in November.

1997

The *Coleman* court approved a plan to address the constitutional inadequacies in mental health care.

2001

The *Plata* class-action lawsuit was filed in U.S. District Court, Northern District, alleging that medical care in state prisons violated the Eighth Amendment's ban of cruel and unusual punishment.

2002

The State settled the *Plata* suit and agreed to implement reforms to the medical system.

2005

The *Plata* court found that the State was behind schedule in improving medical care and was unable to remedy the problems on its own.

2006

The *Plata* court appointed a federal receiver to bring medical care into compliance with the U.S. Constitution.

Plaintiffs in the *Plata* and *Coleman* cases requested the convening of a Three-Judge Panel to review whether overcrowding was the primary cause of the failure to provide adequate medical and mental health care.

2008

The Three-Judge Panel trial took place.



2010

The Three-Judge Panel ordered the State to reduce its adult institution population to 137.5 percent of design capacity within two years and according to a schedule of four benchmarks at six-month intervals. The State appealed that order to the U.S. Supreme Court.

2011

In April, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. signed AB 109 Public Safety Realignment, designed to bring about a significant reduction in the prison population.

In May, the U.S. Supreme Court affirmed the Three-Judge Panel's order.

In October, Public Safety Realignment took effect and eventually reduced the adult institution population by 25,000.

2012

In September, the *Plata* court approved a plan to end the federal receivership to return management and day-to-day control over medical services to the State.

2013

In January, Governor Brown filed a motion to terminate the *Coleman* lawsuit and to end the requirement to reduce the prison population to 137.5 percent of design capacity.

In April, the *Coleman* court denied the State's motion to terminate the case and the Three-Judge Panel denied the State's motion to end the requirement to reduce the population to 137.5 percent.

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